16th March 1954]

Assignment of house-sites to Harijans in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district.

* 197 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Harijan families have been provided with houses free of cost and how many are provided on payment of the full cost or half the cost of the house-sites in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, during the year 1953–54; and

(*b*) how many families are yet to be provided with houses free of cost or house-sites on payment of full or half cost?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" (*a*) Nil.

" (*b*) House-sites are proposed to be provided to 339 Harijan families of which 112 families will be granted house-sites free of cost, 43 on recovery of full cost, 7 on payment of half cost and 98 families on payment of one-third of the cost. The question whether the remaining 79 families should be granted house-sites free of cost or on payment of cost is under consideration."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" In view of the fact that Harijans are economically backward and that they could not construct their houses even after the assignment of lands for house-sites, will the Government consider the desirability of granting at least Rs. 500 as subsidy and Rs. 500 as loan recoverable on instalment basis? " 11-10 a.m.

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" This is a matter of policy involving financial commitment. The present policy, as I have stated, is that deserving Harijans will be granted house-sites free. But the Government are not committing themselves to any free grants for construction of houses."

Reconstruction of the bridge on the Chowa-Anjarakandi road in Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar.

* 198 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Thattari Bridge No. 19 on the Chowa-Anjarakandi road in Chirakkal taluk in North Malabar has been completely broken down and if so, for how long it has been in that broken condition and the steps taken by the Government either to repair it or to put up a fresh bridge at the place?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" The bridge collapsed in the rains of 1945. Its reconstruction has been sanctioned under Post-War Road Development programme. The construction of the bridge up to deck level has been completed. The work is expected to be completed shortly."

Removal of untouchability.

* 199 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Central Government have made any grants to this State for the removal of untouchability;

(b) if so, the amount so granted for the year 1953–54;

(c) how the grant is proposed to be utilized;

(d) whether the State Government have received any representations requesting the disbursement of the grant through private organizations like the Harijan Sevak Sangh; and

(e) if so, which are those private organizations?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Rs. 1,99,000.

" (c) The matter is under consideration.

" (d) Yes.

" (e) The Tamil Nad Scheduled Castes Federation."

SRI A. RATNAM:—" இதில் சென்னை ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரின் மான்யம் எவ்வளவு ? மேடைகளைக் கட்டி விடுவதால் தீண்டாமை ஒழியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" The share of the Madras Government is 50 per cent."

Cessation of traffic due to floods on the Trunk road from Chingleput to Madurantakam.

* 200 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to State—

(a) the number of days when traffic was closed on the Trunk road from Chingleput to Madurantakam on account of floods during the months of October and November 1953; and

(b) the alternative traffic arrangements made by the Government during that period and the expenses incurred thereon?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI:—" (a) Three days in October 1953 (i.e., 22nd, 23rd and 31st October 1953) and four days in November 1953 (i.e., 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 26th November 1953).

" (b) No alternative arrangement was made and hence no expenditure was incurred thereon."

Statistics about train collisions.

* 201 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many train collisions occurred in the State during the year 1953 and the places of collisions and the dates;